

TreeLink News Bulletin

In the works



Willow Oak
Quercus phellos

The willow oak's leaves are untoothed, narrowly oblong, to 4 inches (10 cm) long and 1 inch (2.5 cm) across, ending in a small, fine point. The smooth, gray bark develops ridges and cracks into plates with age. The male flowers are yellow-green drooping catkins, while the female flowers are small and inconspicuous. Both male and female flowers occur on the same plant during the late spring. The fruit is an acorn which is 5/8 inches (1.5 cm) long and about one-quarter enclosed in a shallow cup. The mature height can reach 100 feet (30 m).

The willow oak is native to the eastern United States, but due to its affinity for moist swampy soils makes it a good candidate for westside plantings.

—Courtesy of Allen J. Coombes



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Jennifer M. Belcher - Commissioner of Public Lands

Hello, fellow arborophiles! No, you haven't been dropped from the TreeLink mailing list. We are running behind schedule and we apologize. This wet and windy winter is keeping everyone on their toes and the Urban and Community Forestry Program is no different. I hope you are fairing well and have taken precautions to deal with some of the challenges this weather brings. I suggest having your trees checked by a certified arborist following these major wind events to look for cracks and splits which could lead to future problems. You might also want to have your trees pruned to reduce some of the wind sail effect. Whatever you do, remember two things, never top your trees to make them wind safe and spring is just around the corner. Hey, is that a flower I see! -K.L.

Arbor Day is Almost Here

Arbor Day is April 14 and activities are being diligently planned around the state to celebrate the planting and preservation of trees. Vancouver, for example, is planning to plant a big leaf maple along its historic Officer's Row to replace one of the decaying trees which fell over earlier this winter. The Yakima Area Arboretum is going to be dedicating a new planting which was designed in partnership with Pacific Power. The new tree exhibit will feature "utility friendly" species which will not be in conflict with power lines. Both events will occur on April 14. The Washington State Historical Society (WSHS) is coordinating a major event, "Celebrating Washington's Trees," to be held on April 10, 1999, at the Washington State History Museum in downtown Tacoma. The event will be fun and educational for young and old alike and will center around the significance of trees to our past and to our future. The Urban and Community Forestry Program would like to put together a list of Arbor Day events for the April TreeLink, so if you would like to spread the word about your event, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

Free "STORM DAMAGE" Kits Available

As another winter storm blows through Washington, property owners, whose ornamental trees or forest stands have been damaged by recent rain, wind and snowstorms, are invited to request a free information kit from the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The "Tree and Forest Storm Damage" information kit addresses ways for landowners to respond and mitigate damage to individual trees or to forest stands caused by wind, snow, ice and excessively heavy rain. Please specify eastern or western Washington when ordering. The kit includes information about storm damage to ornamental and forest trees, proper pruning and tree care and wildlife habitat enhancement. To download or to browse the kit electronically, access DNR's web site at: <http://www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/storm.htm> or call 1-888-STEWKIT (783-9548).

Puget Sound Urban Resources Partnership Kick-off

The Puget Sound Urban Resources Partnership (PSURP) will be celebrating the beginning of a new round of high impact urban environmental projects this month with the dedication of their newest grant project on the Duwamish River in south Seattle. The March 23 event will highlight the PSURP/King County partnership and launch the Duwamish Salmon Habitat Restoration project. Keynote speakers will be USDA Undersecretary Jim Lyons, King County Executive Ron Sims and Metropolitan King County Councilmember Larry Philips. Event coordinators are Penny Falknor, USFS, and BrynDel Swift, aide to Metropolitan King County Councilmember Larry Phillips, along with Lisa Jaguzny with People for Puget Sound. For more information about the event as it develops, contact BrynDel Swift at (206) 296-1664.

"Tree to Seas: Journey of the Wild Salmon" Board Game

In celebration of Arbor Day, Washington Arbor Day Council (WADC), Washington Department of Natural Resources, and the Washington Department of Agriculture have teamed up to bring you "Trees to Seas: Journey of the Wild Salmon." "Trees to Seas," was unveiled as the interactive and educational highlight of the WADC publication *ArborLeaf*. You can obtain a copy of "Trees to Seas: Journey of the Wild Salmon" and the accompanying educational materials by visiting the WADC website at www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/arborday.htm. If you would like a copy of the *ArborLeaf* or the seedling order forms, contact WADC at arborday@wadnr.gov or call (360) 902-1027.

In the works (continued)

Where forest murmurs there is music:
ancient, everlasting
-Fiona MacLeod

TRIVIA: The Lily Family is normally
thought of as a family of perennial herbs.
Can you name one of the two tree types in
the Lily Family?

(answer is upside down below)

Picks and Shovels

On the Horizon

The Washington Urban and Community Forestry Program is made possible with assistance from the USDA Forest Service. The program's purpose is to assist communities and nonprofit groups in building self-sustaining urban forestry and tree care programs with strong local support.

Editor: Kevin LeClair, Community Assistance Forester, DNR Urban and Community Forestry Program, P.O. Box 47037, Olympia, WA 98504-7037
Phone 1-800-523-8733
Fax (360) 902-1757



PRINTED ON RECYCLED AND RECYCLABLE PAPER

(Green Dracaena and Yucca spp.)

NeighborWoods Comes to Seattle

TREEmendous Seattle is initiating a NeighborWoods Program which endeavors to have a healthy forest in every neighborhood, cared for by people who will keep it healthy. NeighborWoods recognizes the neighborhood as the principle unit of organization around which other entities play a supporting role. The core of the NeighborWoods program is based on workshops and projects which take place on an almost weekly basis. The workshops teach people the skills of tree care and event organization, while fostering a dialogue around urban forestry issues. The projects include tree planting, tree care, and open space forest restoration. Several of the workshops will tie in with the urban forestry roundtables which TREEmendous Seattle coordinates. To find out how you can be a part of this exciting new initiative, or to find out how to do something like it in your community, check out TREEmendous Seattle's website at www.seattletrees.org or call (206) 281-8415.

1999 Urban Forestry Grants

Deadline for applications is March 15, 1999. You can receive more information or an application by calling the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733. Applications can also be downloaded from the web at <http://www.wa.gov/dnr/htdocs/rp/urban/urban.htm>.

ISA Certified Arborist Exams

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (PNW-ISA), in an effort to set the highest standards in the arboricultural industry, have released the 1999 exam dates for individuals wishing to become certified as arborists. The cost for the exam is \$100(US) for members and \$150(US) for non members. Some of the dates include: Langley, BC on 3/27/99; Seattle, WA on 4/10/99; Victoria, BC on 5/18/99; and Albany, OR on 5/15/99. The PNW-ISA also has listed several exam review sessions for individuals wishing to brush up on their knowledge prior to the exam. For more information and a sign-up form, contact the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.

A City Among the Trees is a 200-page workbook which integrates elements of urban forestry, comprehensive planning, and sustainability. It will prove to be a valuable resource for young and old citizens planning for trees and green spaces and will foster awareness and political support for future urban forestry management. This book is a must have for anyone interested in the wonderful world of urban and community forestry. Between its covers, you will find information on topics like: urban tree benefits, planning, tree selection, planting, tree care, street and park trees, natural areas, tree preservation, and a phenomenal resource guide. Copies can be purchased from Seattle Transportation for the bargain price of \$10.00. Order one now. For more information, contact Liz Ellis at liz.ellis@ci.seattle.wa.us or (206) 684-5008.

March

- 18 Trees, People, and the Law. CUH, Seattle, WA. "Law of Trees" expert Victor D. Merullo will be presenting a full-day workshop devoted exclusively to trees and the law. Cost \$125. To register, contact NADF at (402) 474-5655.
- 29-31 Building *With Trees* National Conference. Arbor Day Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE. For more information, contact NADF at (402) 474-5655.

April

- 10 Celebrating Washington's Trees. Washington State History Museum, Tacoma, WA. This all day event for families will feature workshops, speakers, entertainment, and hands-on learning experiences. Attendees will also receive free admission to the "Sunrise to Paradise: Story of Mt. Rainier," a new exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of Mt. Rainier National Park.
- 21 Washington Community Forestry Council Meeting. Ellensburg, WA. The Council's goal is to provide leadership and vision to help citizens preserve, plant, and maintain community and urban forests. Their meetings are open to the public. For more information, call the TreeLink Hotline at 1-800-523-8733.